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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**TWO INDIANAPOLIS MEN CONVICTED  
OF FEDERAL COCAINE CONSPIRACY**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that WILLIAM INGRAM, 32, and SHERMAN EMERSON, 32, both of Indianapolis, Indiana, were convicted of Conspiracy to Possess With Intent To Distribute and/or Distribute 5 Kilograms or More of Cocaine by a jury sitting in U.S. District Court in Indianapolis. The jury also convicted INGRAM of Carrying A Firearm In Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime and Unlawful Possession of Firearm by a Convicted Felon.

These convictions stem from a joint investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) the Indianapolis Police Department's Homicide Branch, and the Project Super Achilles Task Force, which targets violent criminals and is composed of personnel from IPD, ATF and the US Marshal's Service.

Based upon information alleging involvement in prior drug robberies, INGRAM, EMERSON, and four other members of an Indianapolis-based group were targeted by an undercover operation that advised the group the location of 20 kilograms of cocaine. INGRAM, EMERSON and other group members were videotaped as they met with an undercover ATF agent and planned details of an armed robbery of the cocaine, which on the street would be worth \$500,000.

The defendants were arrested on December 5, 2004, when most of the group appeared at an Indianapolis west side building to take the cocaine. Although there was no cocaine, there were police officers there to arrest them. At the time of arrest, law enforcement officers recovered four semiautomatic firearms, numerous ski masks, and a roll of duct tape.

INGRAM who has prior convictions for Dealing in a Sawed-Off Shotgun, Burglary, Criminal Confinement, Intimidation, Receiving Stolen Property, and Theft, and EMERSON who has prior convictions for Burglary, Carrying a Handgun Without a License, and Auto Theft, face maximum possible sentences of life imprisonment. A sentencing date will be set as soon as a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report is completed.

Four other defendants arrested in this case -- Daniel Cannon, Andre Mann, Deandre Douglas, and Stephen Coleman – have entered guilty pleas to the Conspiracy charge. Cannon, who has previously been convicted of Armed Carjacking and Assault on a Corrections Officer, was on federal supervised release at the time the robbery of the 20 kilograms of cocaine was planned. Cannon and the other defendants will also be sentenced when a Pre-Sentence Investigation Report is completed.

Shortly after their arrest, all six were ordered held in custody by a U.S. Magistrate Judge until their cases were completed.

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